WO 03/077896 PCT/US03/07038

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for preventing $A\beta$ formation comprising administering a prophylactically effective amount of an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor in combination with a prophylactically effective amount of an ACAT inhibitor to patient in need thereof.

- 2. A method for reducing $A\beta$ formation comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of an ACAT inhibitor to patient in need thereof.
- A method for preventing or reducing the risk for onset of Alzheimer's disease comprising administering a prophylactically effective amount of an HMG CoA reductase inhibitor in combination with a prophylactically effective amount of an ACAT inhibitor to patient in need thereof
 - 4. A method for treating Alzheimer's disease comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of an ACAT inhibitor to patient in need thereof.
 - 5. The method according to Claim 4 wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the lactone and dihydroxy open-acid forms of lovastatin, simvastatin, pravastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin, rosuvastatin, pitavastatin and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof.
 - 6. The method of Claim 5 wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the lactone and dihydroxy open-acid forms of simvastatin and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof.
 - 7. The method of Claim 5 wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the lactone and dihydroxy open-acid forms of lovastatin and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof.

WO 03/077896 PCT/US03/07038

8. The method of claim 4 wherein the ACAT inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} O & CH_2C(CH_3)_3 \\ \hline \\ O & CH_2C(CH_3)_3 \\ \hline \\ O & CH_2C(CH_3)_3 \\ \hline \\ CH_2O_8-CH_3 \\ \hline \\ CH_2O_8-$$

(ii)

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 CH_3
 CH_3

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WO 03/077896 PCT/US03/07038

and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof.

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